

Message Text

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PAGE 01 JAKART 12654 160824Z

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ACTION SS-25

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FM AMEMBASSY JAKARTA

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 767

C O N F I D E N T I A L JAKARTA 12654

EXDIS

EO 11652: GDS

TAGS: ENRG

SUBJ: INDONESIAN-CALTEX RELATIONS

REF: JAKARTA 12144

1. IN MEETING BETWEEN CALTEX PRESIDENT JULIUS TAHIYA AND PRESIDENT SUHARTO OCTOBER 5, IT WAS AGREED, ACCORDING TO TAHIYA, THAT CALTEX EXECUTIVES WOULD REVIEW THEIR OPERATIONS AND CURRENT INDONESIAN FINANCIAL NEEDS AND WOULD MAKE "CERTAIN SUGGESTIONS" TO GOVERNMENT BY END OF DECEMBER.

2. TAHIYA TOLD AMBASSADOR PRESIDENT DOD NOT, AS SADLI HAD PREDICTED, REQUEST RENEGOTIATION, BUT MERELY LAID HIS CONCERNS OVER CURRENT INDONESIAN FINANCIAL PROBLEMS BEFORE TAHIYA AND ASKED FOR HELP. NO FINAL AGREEMENT LIKELY BEFORE FEBRUARY, TAHIYA SAID. PRESIDENT WAS IMPRESSED ACCORDING TO TAHIYA, BY HOW MUCH CALTEX ALREADY DOING FOR INDONESIA IN EXPLORATION, TRAINING, AND INDONESIANIZATION.

3. AMBASSADOR ALSO RECEIVED CONFIRMATION THAT PRESSURE ON CALTEX HAS BEEN RELAXED IN MEETING WITH DIREGEN OIL AND GAS WIJARSO OCTOBER 8. WIJARSO, WHO HAD OPPOSED REQUESTING RENEGOTIATION OF CALTEX PROFIT SHARE, SAID THAT HE NOT RESPONSIBLE FOR MATTER AND THAT IT "NEEDED MORE STUDY."

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4. COMMENT: THIS WHOLE STRANGE EPISODE SUGGESTS

TECHNOCRATS WIDJOJO AND SADLI TOOK INITIATIVE WITH
PRESIDENT, BUT THAT INITIATIVE MAY HAVE BACKFIRED. THIS
MAY REPRESENT THEIR FIRST SETBACK IN RECENT MONTHS IN
THEIR CONTINUING STRUGGLE WITH GENERAL IBNU WHO HAD
STRONGLY OPPOSED ANY RENEGOTIATION. NEWSOM

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Message Attributes

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